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NEWS WORTH SHARING.

## Drama, for the greater good

New U of S play 'advocates for the theatre and the arts' during a time when they're being threatened by school funding cuts PAGE 11

## Killing lions was best thing for zoo, facility says

Danish zoo that put down a giraffe defends its latest cull PAGE 3

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# Legislation aims to clear grain backlog

**Ottawa.** Feds estimate farmers have suffered up to $8.3B in lost sales

The federal government has tabled legislation aimed at increasing the movement of grain that has been left sitting in bins across the Prairies because of a railway transportation bottleneck.

The legislation introduced on Wednesday would amend the Canada Grain Act and the Canada Transportation Act. Among other changes, the amendments would allow the Canadian Grain Commission to regulate how much a grain company will pay to a farmer if the company doesn't meet delivery dates in a contract.

It also aims to extend what are called inter-switching limits from 30 kilometres to 160 kilometres in Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Most grain elevators on the Prairies are served by only one railway and the federal government says expanding inter-switching would allow more service by more rail companies.

"This reflects the new reality of far-apart elevators ... and the changes in the rail system," federal Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz said in a conference call.

"This inter-switching is the best way to give us a quasi-competitive situation."

Canadian National and Canadian Pacific have blamed the backlog mainly on the size of the harvest and cold weather.

Canadian National president and CEO Claude Mongeau said the legislation is heavy-handed.

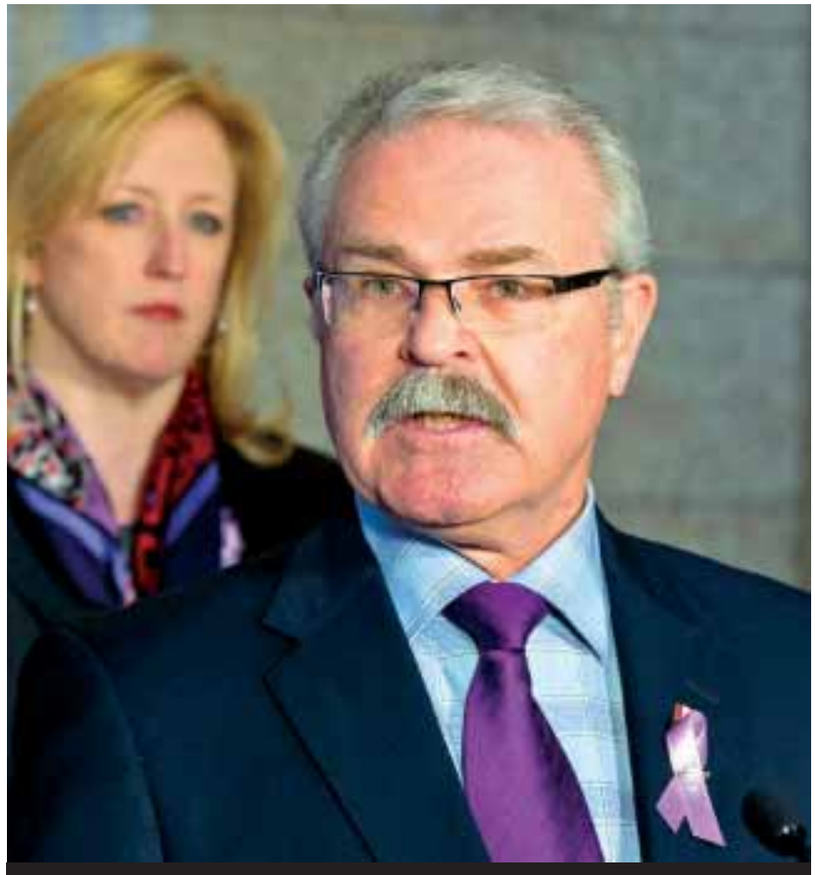
Ottawa had ordered rail companies earlier this month to double the amount of grain they move each week, up to a minimum of one million tonnes in 11,000 cars. If they don't meet that requirement, they could face fines of up to $100,000 a day.

Saskatchewan is disappointed that the new legislation does not increase the $100,000 penalty, direct fines to benefit farmers instead of federal coffers, or boost volume.

"We believe that 13,000 cars a week of grain could be unloaded ... without handicapping other commodities that need to flow from Western Canada and we thought that $250,000-a-day penalties were not out of line for non-compliance," said Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister Lyle Stewart.

Western Canadian farmers harvested a record crop of 76 million tonnes last year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Federal Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz and Transport Minister Lisa Raitt make an announcement on legislation to speed up grain transport, Wednesday, in Ottawa. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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NEWS 1

# Report calls for advance warning system at crossings

**Passive rail crossings.** Without advance-warning systems 'risk of accidents ... will continue,' report warns

A report into a deadly crash between a train and a camper van warns the risk of such accidents remains until better warning systems are required at railway crossings without bells, lights and gates.

The Transportation Safety Board report is based on an investigation into a collision that killed four people in Broadview, Sask., in broad daylight in August 2012.

"Considering the serious consequences that can result from a crossing accident and the technological advancements that have been made, the board is concerned that, in the absence of timely implementation of low-cost alert systems, the risk of accidents at passive crossings will continue," reads the report released Wednesday.

The report says the van was driven by a tired 15-year-old novice driver on a road where trees and brush made it difficult to see the tracks.

The Canadian Pacific Railway freight train travelling at 85 km/h sounded its horn and had its lights on, but struck the van broadside at a railway crossing that only had standard reflector warning signs.

Passive rail crossings are common in rural Canada. The report notes there have been 658 accidents over the last 10 years at passive crossings, which resulted in 59 deaths and 107 serious injuries.

The board said equipping such crossings with advance warning devices triggered by trains to warn drivers would improve safety.

But Rob Johnston, a safety board spokesman, said it would be very expensive to equip all rail crossings with automated gates and bells.

He said research is needed to find an affordable alternative.

"What we really wanted to do is to push the bar a little bit, because essentially passive crossings have been like this for over 100 years," Johnston said from Ottawa. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Transportation Safety Board says rural rail crossings need to be equipped with advance-warning systems, as seen above, in order to reduce accidents occurring at these crossings across the country. MORGANMODJESKI/METRO

# Saskatoon woman files human-rights complaint for transgender daughter

A Saskatoon woman has filed a complaint with the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission, saying she wants to be able to change the sex listed on one of her children's birth certificates.

Fran Forsberg says six-year-old Renn was born a male but has always identified as female.

She says her commission complaint is similar to one being fought in British Columbia by relatives of 10-year-old Harriette Cunningham, who was also born a boy but has transitioned to being a girl.

In that case, Harriette's grandmother Cathie Dickens also helped her start a letter-writing campaign asking politicians to have sex removed from birth certificates altogether.

Forsberg says the Vital Statistics Agency has refused to act on Renn's case.

Susan Antosh of eHealth Saskatchewan says any application for a change of sex on a birth certificate requires evidence of gender reassignment surgery or evidence of an error that was done at the registration of birth.

She says those are requirements that are in places as part of the provincial legislation which eHealth has to follow.

"A birth certificate is a primary identification document and sex is determined at the birth and it generally is based on physical attributes of the baby at birth," says Antosh.

"Generally, sex is biological and physiological characteristics. Gender is more a person's internal sense of self."

Forsberg, who has eight adopted children, two birth children and one "borrowed daughter," says when Renn showed clear signs that she was a transgender child, the family allowed her to express herself.

She believes it's archaic to list sex on a birth certificate. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Skidding stop**

## Investigation underway into plane's emergency landing

The Transportation Safety Board is investigating after a plane was forced to make a belly landing at an airport in northern Saskatchewan.

The Transwest Air charter aircraft took off from the La Ronge airport on Tuesday morning.

But the King Air twin turboprop plane had to turn around about an hour into the flight when its landing gear wouldn't retract.

Transwest spokesman Wayne Buckle says the landing gear finally went up when it shouldn't have — just after touchdown — so the plane had to come to a skidding stop. Seven people were on board, but no one was hurt. Buckle says the pilot did a great job.

"They followed all the procedures that are in place for this type of an incident and managed to land the plane safely," Buckle said. "All the passengers were well looked after and nobody was hurt. That's the main thing." THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Cutbacks**

## First Nations group cuts vice-chiefs' pay

Delegates at the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations special legislative assembly have voted to cut the pay of vice-chiefs.

Vice-chiefs making more than $90,000 a year will see their pay cut to $75,000.

Voters at the assembly in Prince Albert also decided to reduce the number of legislative assembly from three to two. Federation Chief Perry Bellegarde's office will be allocated $215,000, but will have no executive assistant. All executives will now have to share two assistants. The group is trying to make up for a $2-million cut in funding from the federal government. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Director of Copenhagen Zoo, Steffen Straede, stands in front of two lionesses. POLFOTO, JENS DRESLING/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Danish zoo defends killing four of its lions

**Copenhagen Zoo.** This cull has put the zoo on the defensive again, a month after it killed a healthy giraffe

A Danish zoo on Wednesday defended its decision to kill two aging lions and two cubs, citing the risk of inbreeding and the arrival of a new male. This week's cull has put the Copenhagen Zoo on the defensive again, a month after it infuriated animal rights activists by killing a healthy giraffe, dissecting it in public and feeding it to the lions.

In a statement, the zoo said it had to put down the lions to make room for the new, three-year-old male, saying it wouldn't have been accepted by the pride if the older male, 16, were still around.

"Furthermore we couldn't risk that the male lion mated with the old female as she was too old to be mated with again due to the fact that she would have difficulties with birth and parental care of another litter," the zoo said.

The zoo said the cubs were put down because they couldn't fend for themselves and the male would likely kill them. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Zoo as tough as nature**

**Zoo officials hope the new male and two females born in 2012 will form the nucleus of a new pride.**

- They said the culling "may seem harsh, but in nature is necessary to ensure a strong pride of lions..."

# 122 objects spotted in ocean offer fresh lead

A French satellite scanning the Indian Ocean for remnants of a missing jetliner found a possible plane debris field containing 122 objects, a top Malaysian official said Wednesday, calling it "the most credible lead that we have."

Defence Minister Hishammuddin Hussein said the objects were more than 2,500 kilometres southwest of Australia, in the area where a desperate, multinational hunt has been going on since other satellites detected possible jet debris.

Clouds obscured the latest satellite images, but dozens of objects could be seen in the gaps, ranging in length from one metre to 23 metres. Hishammuddin said some of them "appeared to be bright, possibly indicating solid materials."

The images were taken Sunday. Various floating objects have been spotted by planes and satellites over the last week, including on Wednesday, when the Australian Maritime Safety Authority said three more objects were seen. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Malaysian Remote Sensing Agency graphic shows objects in the south Indian Ocean. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Search now size of Alaska**

**Malaysia announced Monday that a mathematical analysis of the final known satellite signals from the plane showed that it crashed in the sea, killing everyone on board.**

- The new data greatly reduced the search zone, but it remains huge — an area estimated at 1.6-million square kilometres, about the size of Alaska.
- Recovering any part of the plane will be tough because of the sheer depth of the ocean — much of it between about 3,000-4,500 metres (10,000-15,000 feet) deep in the search area.

**Turkey**

## Court orders Twitter restored

A Turkish court ordered the telecommunications authority to restore access to Twitter on Wednesday, issuing an injunction five days after the government blocked access to the social network.

The ban came shortly after Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan threatened to "rip out the roots" of Twitter, which has been a conduit for links to recordings suggesting government corruption.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Art mimics life**

## Movie similar to disaster on hold

A disaster movie about a jet that crashes into the ocean on its way to Beijing has been put on hold because of its similarities to the missing Malaysian plane.

Arclight Films, the company behind Deep Water, said Wednesday that pre-production has been halted for the time being.

"We're delaying it out of respect for what's going on," managing director Gary Hamilton said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Secret Service**

## Three of Obama's bodyguards called home

The chairman of the Senate Homeland Security Committee said Wednesday he's troubled by an incident involving a drunken Secret Service agent in connection with President Barack Obama's overseas trip to The Netherlands.

On Sunday, the agency called three agents home from the Netherlands just before Obama's arrival for talks with foreign leaders.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Chow to Ford: 'It's time to take down the circus tent'

**Toronto.** Scandal-plagued mayor accused of having made the city 'an international embarrassment' during live televised debate

Toronto Mayor Rob Ford, right, laughs next to David Soknacki as they take part in a mayoral debate in Toronto on Wednesday. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto's scandal-plagued mayor held his own against several concerted attacks during Wednesday's first televised mayoral debate as he seeks to stay in office come October.

Rob Ford, who frequently rolled his eyes, stared at the ceiling and flashed grins at the audience, defended his fiscal record as he shot back at the candidates vying to replace him.

"Four years ago, I was elected to stop the gravy train," Ford said, thumping a familiar drum. "I have stopped the gravy train."

Former NDP MP Olivia Chow was quick to shoot him down: "It's time for you to go because your gravy train has turned into a train wreck," Chow said. "You need to pack up that nonsense you're talking about."

Chow was the first candidate to allude directly to, but not mention, Ford's well-known problems — including smoking crack and spouting obscenities on live TV — that have made him talk-show fodder and made him a recognizable name around the world.

Ford was frequently content to let the others debate among themselves, but didn't hesitate to jump in.

Former provincial PC party leader John Tory said Ford had "run out of gas" given his inability to get anything through a council that has stripped him of most of his powers. He accused the mayor of letting taxpayers down and ruining the city's reputation.

Mostly, though, it was Chow and Ford who went at each other during the two-hour debate. "It's time to take down the circus tent at city hall," Chow said, saying the mayor had made Toronto "an international embarrassment."

Voters will choose whether Ford remains in office or will be replaced Oct. 27.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Up for debate**

**"We've had it with the scandals and lack of truth. It's time to go because you're embarrassing our city."** **Olivia Chow,** to Rob Ford

# Russia. PM Harper says Vladimir Putin still in a Cold War state of mind

Stephen Harper takes part in a Q&A in Munich, Germany, on Wednesday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a solemn warning to Germans about Russia Wednesday, reminding them of the dangers posed by a leader with a Cold War mentality who has brazenly seized territory from a weaker neighbour.

"As unfortunate as it sounds, it's increasingly apparent to me that the Cold War has never left Vladimir Putin's mind; I think he still thinks in those terms," Harper said on the eve of his meeting with German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

"We simply, as a world, cannot afford the risk of Europe going back to being a continent where people seize territory, where they make claims on neighbouring countries, where the bigger military powers are prepared to invade their neighbours or carve off pieces."

Germans know this better than anyone, Harper suggested.

"This is a world we cannot go back to — I know the feeling about that in Germany particularly. We cannot go back to this. It represents an enormous long-term threat to peace and security."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Lucky in London. Ontario man wins second jackpot, this time it's a cool million

Meet Robert McPhail: London, Ont.'s luckiest man, who claimed the second big lottery prize of his life — $1 million in the March 19 Lotto 6-49 draw.

His first round of luck came in 1992 when he was part of a group of seven that cashed in on $571,157.

McPhail was picking up a newspaper and some chocolates for his wife at a Shoppers Drug Mart when "something told me to buy a ticket," he said.

McPhail ended up buying two tickets for the draw.

"I found out about my win when checking my numbers against those posted in the newspaper," he said. "I was in disbelief. I always thought I would win again — I just didn't know when. My family members keep rubbing me for good luck."

McPhail plans to take a trip to the U.K. with his wife and may take his grandchildren on a fishing trip.

A University of Alberta math professor has figured that if you play twice a week, every week for a thousand years, the chances are better than 99 per cent that you'll never win the jackpot. It's a good thing McPhail isn't a mathematician.

SCOTT TAYLOR/METRO IN LONDON, ONT.

Robert McPhail of London, Ont., won $1 million in March 19's Lotto 6-49 draw. He'd won before as part of a group that cashed in on $571,157 in 1992. CONTRIBUTED

## Walking in a winter wonderland — in spring

A pedestrian battles the high winds and blowing snow as he walks in downtown Halifax on Wednesday, where a spring snowstorm packed a bigger punch than any of the storms that hit Nova Scotia during the winter. Halifax was brought to a standstill, with government offices, schools, retailers and transit all eventually shutting down. By 6:30 p.m., winds gusting up to 80 kilometres per hour in Halifax and up to 130 kilometres per hour along the Atlantic coast had caused a near-record-breaking high tide in Halifax Harbour, swamping some coastal wharves and roads. TEXT: RUTH DAVENPORT/METRO IN HALIFAX; PHOTO: ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Concerns under review**

## Support may exist to fight old-age poverty in vets

The Veterans Affairs Department is weighing whether federal programs provide enough of a safety net to keep severely injured ex-soldiers from falling into poverty after they turn 65.

Minister Julian Fantino and senior officials have told a Senate committee that the concerns are still under review, but Fantino suggests some may be addressed by a parliamentary review of the new veterans charter. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Labour**

## Deal reached in costly Vancouver truckers' strike

Striking truckers at Canada's largest port reached a deal Wednesday to end a prolonged strike, which has left hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of cargo stranded at Vancouver-area container terminals and prompted escalating pressure from the provincial and federal governments.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Conservative MP Steven Fletcher speaks with the media as he leaves caucus on Parliament Hill on Wednesday.
ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Tory MP preps euthanasia bill

**Former cabinet minister.** Quadriplegic Steven Fletcher to table assisted-suicide proposal against government policy

A former Conservative cabinet minister who was left paralyzed from the neck down by a 1996 car crash plans to introduce two private member's bills which would allow assisted suicide in some cases.

Steven Fletcher, a Manitoba MP who was dropped from the federal cabinet last summer, is going against government policy with his legislation.

One of Fletcher's two bills would, if passed, allow doctors to help people end their lives under certain restricted circumstances. The second would set up a commission to monitor the system.

"There will be a set of statutory requirements that must be met before the act of physician-assisted death can happen," Fletcher said Wednesday before a Conservative caucus meeting.

He wouldn't go into specific details, saying that will have to wait until after the bills are introduced in the House of Commons on Thursday.

The legislation is likely to face a tough time in the Commons, which last looked at the issue in 2010 and voted against it by a wide margin.

Justice Minister Peter MacKay said he has no interest in starting that debate again.

The Supreme Court of Canada, which in 1993 narrowly ruled against Sue Rodriguez in her much-debated bid for assisted suicide, has agreed to hear another British Columbia right-to-die case this spring. Rodriguez, who had amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or Lou Gehrig's disease, took her own life in 1994 with the help of an anonymous doctor.

"When I reflect back on the Sue Rodriguez case, I really felt that she should have been able to legally receive what was ultimately done," Fletcher said.

He also said polls suggest Canadians in general support the idea. A Quebec bill on assisted suicide died three weeks ago when the provincial election was called. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Quoted**

**"I'm not in any hurry to reopen that issue."**

**Justice Minister Peter MacKay**, expressing his disinterest in debating assisted suicide in the House of Commons.

# Police, mental health leaders discuss how to prevent tragedies

It's a national conversation that's finally taking place.

Amid growing concern over how police deal with some of society's most vulnerable, law enforcement officials, those who live with mental illness and those who support them have gathered to discuss how to avert tragedies during crises.

That dialogue, deemed the first of its kind, comes at a time when statistics suggest one in five Canadians experience a mental health illness in any given year.

"It's a major step forward and a very bold step forward," said Louise Bradley, CEO of the Mental Health Commission of Canada, host of the conference in Toronto with the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police.

One of the key issues police and mental health advocates have to grapple with is the lack of national standards: there isn't a country-wide training curriculum for officers on how to deal with the mentally ill, nor is there comprehensive data collected on the issue.

Vancouver Police Chief Jim Chu, who's also president of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, says "police are increasingly becoming the mental health response agency of first resort." THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Ice clogging your river? Amphibex will save you

Long before many Manitobans dared to hope that spring would end their brutally cold winter, 28 hearty people donned floatation suits and made their way onto the Red River north of Winnipeg.

The crew is on the front lines of the province's annual battle against spring flooding.

The weapons? A bizarre-looking half-backhoe, half-barge called an Amphibex machine and a made-in-Manitoba remote-control Bobcat saw.

The tools are at the heart of a sophisticated, round-the-clock operation that breaks up 30 kilometres of ice down the centre of the Red River before the thaw, reducing the possibility that big chunks will dam the river and cause a sudden flood.

"You think you've seen it all but you haven't," said Darrell Kupchik, executive director of operations of North Red Waterway Maintenance, which oversees the ice-breaking operation.

Manitoba bought its first Amphibex in 2006.

The buoyant machine, which was actually built for summer dredging, helps break up ice by hoisting its 20,000-kilogram body up onto the ice surface using an excavator-like claw. The sheer weight of the machine crushes the ice below.

It can move at a rate of about one kilometre a day, but Kupchik said crew members quickly realized they could break up more ice if the surface was weakened first.

Unable to find equipment that could do the job, they set about making an ice-cutter by essentially strapping a saw blade to a tractor. By the end of the operation, however, the poor driver was windburned and there were some obvious safety concerns, Kupchik said.

Several prototypes later and the crew came up with a modified remote-controlled Bobcat to do the cutting.

When one of those sank through the ice, custom "water wings" — essentially pontoons — were devised.

Manitoba now operates four Amphibex machines and four specially rigged Bobcats.

The equipment costs $6.5 million. It costs another $1.6 million each year to run the operation around the clock.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

An Amphibex breaks up ice on the Red River in Winnipeg in April 2009. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Old boys' club**

## Royal & Ancient Golf Club to vote on female memberships

The Royal & Ancient Golf Club will vote in September on whether to have its first women as members.

A statement from the club Wednesday said all committees are "strongly in favour of the rule change and are asking members to support it."

The Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews has 2,400 members from around the world and dates to 1754. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Keystone XL**

## Jokes abound over War of 1812 in the U.S. Capitol

The War of 1812 came up in the Keystone XL pipeline debate in the U.S. Capitol during a news conference featuring Canadian ambassador Gary Doer, two U.S. lawmakers and veterans.

Doer began with an 1812 joke, prompting a Republican senator to say the U.S. really won that war.

West Virginia Democrat Joe Manchin said the U.S. can now trust Canada as a stable energy supplier.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Mayerthorpe tragedy**

## Hennessey gains unescorted outings

A man convicted of manslaughter for his role in the shooting deaths of four Alberta RCMP officers near Mayerthorpe has been granted unescorted, temporary absences from prison.

The National Parole Board ruled on Wednesday that Shawn Hennessey will be allowed out for up to 72 hours at a time over the next six months.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# CATCHING DREAMS

Day 1: the Problem
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Day 3: the Promise

# Chance

**Upheaval is coming for First Nations schools. The federal government is planning to invest nearly $2 billion into the neglected system and give communities more control over their own education. Metro travelled to two on-reserve schools to document their condition, the details of the plan and why many people say the proposed changes may be their kids' last chance.**

Critics speak

## *They threw out our work, say Liberals*

Despite Prime Minister Stephen Harper's claim that his First Nations education bill is "historic" and "long overdue," Carolyn Bennett remembers when the Liberal Party made a similar attempt years ago.

The aboriginal affairs critic and Toronto MP pointed to the 2005 Kelowna Accord, a broad-sweeping piece of legislation that sought to close the gap between First Nations communities and the rest of Canadian society.

It was scrapped in 2007 in a vote after the Conservatives were elected.

"The fact that the Kelowna Accord was thrown out was very upsetting," Bennett told Metro. "The Liberals are serious about this and want to carry on the work that was begun with Kelowna."

Bennett also had few kind words for how the current government formulated its First Nations education bill. She called the initial attempt, which was introduced in November and is now undergoing revision, a complete disaster.

"There needs to be an understanding that bottom-up is the only way this will work," she said. "More paternalism and more tablets coming down from on high just serves to irritate people such that they can't even hear what you're saying."

**"More paternalism and more tablets coming down from on high just serves to irritate people."**

While Bennett conceded that Harper's promise of $1.9 billion for on-reserve education over seven years is comparable to former Liberal Prime Minister Paul Martin's promise of $1.7 billion over five years, she focused her criticism on how each administration arrived at the conclusion.

"(The Kelowna Accord) started with hundreds of people in a room, deciding what will be the priorities and then dividing up into working groups and 18 months later coming up with a real plan with the dollars attached," she explained.

By contrast, she said, the Conservatives have imposed their views without proper consultation and have delayed the injection of funds into the system.

"We found out when the budget was tabled those monies won't fall until next year," she said. "So in some ways it was one step forward and two steps back."

However, Bennett added there is some evidence the Conservatives have been listening and eagerly awaits the release of the newly drafted document.

"This is about fixing the greatest social injustice in Canada," she said.

JACOB MORGAN/METRO

Toronto MP and Liberal critic for aboriginal affairs Carolyn Bennett CONTRIBUTED

## The First Nations Control of First Nations Education Act. Metro tracks down answers to the big questions about the government's solution

JACOB MORGAN
jacob.morgan@metronews.ca

### How much will it cost?

That's the main question.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper has committed a total of $1.9 billion. This includes $1.25 billion to run the system beginning in 2016 and increasing 4.5 per cent annually, $500 million for infrastructure over seven years beginning in 2015 as well as $160 million for transitional costs over four years beginning in 2015.

Shawn Atleo, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, tells Metro the 4.5 per cent escalator is a step in the right direction.

"We've been advocating for years to break the two per cent cap," said Atleo, referring to the limit placed on education funding increases in the '90s, which doesn't adequately account for inflation and population growth.

### What will curriculum look like at on-reserve schools?

One of the prime minister's catchphrases is "a comparable system." The goal is to create First Nations curriculums and high school diploma qualifications that parallel those offered in non-aboriginal schools.

In addition, the government has promised to continue consulting with indigenous communities — after its original draft proposal was met with condemnation last fall — to incorporate language and cultural programs that reflect the unique heritage of all 633 First Nations across the country.

"We said we needed resources for language and culture, (and) they've identified that they put that in that $1.9-billion budget announcement that they made," said Atleo.

Shawn Atleo, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations
THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

**"The overriding goal of the legislation is better outcomes for First Nation students. First Nations and the Government of Canada agree that this is best achieved through First Nations control."**
— Government of Canada website

### How will the new act change control of First Nations education?

Until now the Indian Act has governed First Nations education. Since the end of the residential school era, Ottawa has directly administered the system.

The new bill will create First Nations education authorities, which will function similarly to school boards in the provincial system. Authorities will govern schools on a local level and ensure they meet national and provincial standards.

Bernard Valcourt, minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, tells Metro that First Nations communities will appoint their own authorities, which can represent an area or a single school.

"I don't want to control education," said Valcourt. "I want First Nations to control education and First Nations will have options."

### Will there be accountability?

The First Nations education authorities will oversee administrators and require annual reports. The regular reporting is designed to ensure teachers are certified and standards are met.

Atleo said accountability is a two-way street and both sides are responsible.

"They moved away from requiring or suggesting ministerial oversight," he said. "Now we're talking about reciprocal accountability."

Valcourt added that First Nations

# to act

education systems "will have to be accountable to their community, to the parents, to the kids and not to the federal government."

### Who opposes this?

There are numerous groups across Canada opposing the bill. One example is the Onion Lake Cree Nation in the Treaty No. 6 Territory.

Diana Steinhauer holds a PhD degree in indigenous knowledge from the Blue Quills First Nations College and works in governance at Onion Lake. Her official title is ka-nikanapistahk, which she says is Cree for "those who can't speak for themselves, and it refers to the ones who aren't here yet: the animals, the plants, the birds."

Steinhauer explained that Onion Lake rejects the education act and any form of legislation that impedes on their sovereignty.

"We have our inherent jurisdiction over education and we're not going to relinquish it," she said.

The government is not in a position to hand over control, said Steinhauer, because treaty-rights holders should already have that power.

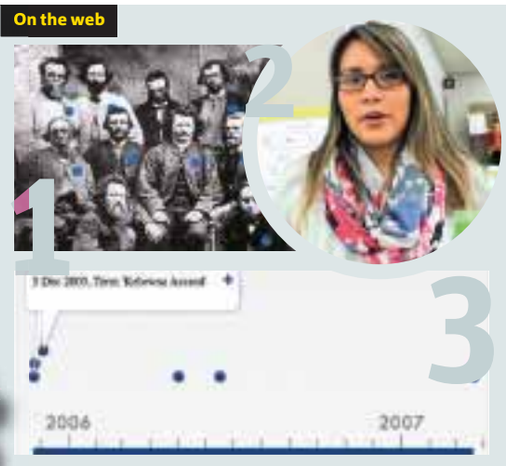
"It's not their jurisdiction to be telling us what to do," she said.

She added that the AFN doesn't speak for Onion Lake, as "it's not an inherent rights holder, it's an organization developed and funded by the government."

> "The legislation will require that First Nation schools ... award widely recognized diplomas or certificates. These requirements do not currently exist."
> — Government of Canada website

BERNARD VALCOURT, MINISTER OF ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

**On the web**




**1 Blue dot.** A sign of defiance
Find out how a little blue sticker became a symbol of protest for opponents of the act. CHRISTI BELCOURT/TWITTER

**2 Youth.** Beyond the politics
Head over to metronews.ca to see what attendees at the Assembly of First Nations Youth Summit had to say about their learning experiences.

**3 Timeline.** Scrapped attempt
Go online to see an interactive timeline of the quashed Kelowna Accord and hear from the national co-chair of the Liberals' Aboriginal Peoples' Commission.

**Critics speak**

## *Too much we don't know, says NDP*

MORGAN MODJESKI
morgan.modjeski@metronews.ca

The aboriginal affairs critic for Canada's opposition party has "major concerns" about the federal government's plan to improve First Nations education.

Announced back in February, the First Nations Control of First Nations Education Act would inject more than $1.9 billion in additional funding to address a financial shortfall for on-reserve education, starting in 2015.

But critics of the bill have questions on how — and when — the act will be implemented.

"We actually haven't seen any legislation at this point, and what my concern is, is that the process of how this is going to be drafted is unclear," said Jean Crowder, aboriginal affairs critic for the New Democratic Party.

"From our perspective, you can't draft this legislation without having First Nations at the table."

Although the federal government held eight face-to-face consultations, 54 informational briefings and received 631 responses to an online survey while drafting the original First Nations Education Act, it was widely rejected.

> "I don't know if there's two people in a closed room putting it together."

And with the federal government's recent announcement having little information on how First Nations will be consulted, Crowder said it's hard to know what its outcome will be.

Jean Crowder, NDP critic for aboriginal affairs CONTRIBUTED

"I don't know if there's two people in a closed room putting it together, whether it's going to have regional representation from across the country," she said.

While Crowder feels the government's acknowledgment of the funding gap is a step in the right direction, the fact money doesn't start flowing until after the 2015 federal election raises questions for her and her supporters.

"I can't speak to their motivation on it, but judging by the emails and letters I'm getting in my office, nobody's being fooled," she said.

"People recognize the money doesn't flow until after a federal election, and given past history, just because people say one thing before an election doesn't mean they're going to do the same thing after.

"I think the timing is very suspicious," she said.

But Bernard Valcourt, federal minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, says the act has nothing to do with the upcoming election.

"I dismiss these charges ... (of) pure political partisanship on (the) part of the people who would rather not have us in government.

"A lot of work has been done. This has been evaluated and looked at by First Nations all across Canada. We've received their views, we've got the AFN resolution, we've got the open letter of the national chief and we have identified a way forward."

## Poland warns against Putin

Ukrainian tanks are transported from their base in Perevalnoe, outside Simferopol, Crimea, Wednesday. Poland's ambassador to Canada is warning the security and certainty of the international post-Cold War era ended with Russia's recent annexation of Crimea and that NATO should have a more defined presence in eastern Europe.

PAVEL GOLOVKIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The truth is out there

### Dwarf planet found in 'celestial wasteland'

Peering into the far reaches of the solar system, astronomers have spied a frozen pink world 12 billion kilometres from the sun.

It's the second such object to be discovered in a region of space beyond Pluto long considered a celestial wasteland. Until now, the lone known resident in this part of the solar system was an oddball dwarf planet spotted in 2003 named Sedna after the mythological Inuit goddess who created the sea creatures of the Arctic.

The new object, 2012 VP113, was tracked using a new camera on a ground telescope in Chile.

Like Sedna, VP is also a dwarf planet. It's jokingly nicknamed Biden after Vice-President Joe Biden because of the object's initials.

It measures about 450 kilometres across. By contrast, Earth is about 12,713 kilometres across.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Arctic talks continue despite rocky relations with Russia

**Diplomacy.** International politicians concerned about how country's actions in Ukraine may affect the situation up north

Canada may be upset at Russia over Ukraine, but conversations with the country continue over the Arctic.

Government officials confirm that a Russian delegation is attending a meeting in Yellowknife this week held by the Arctic Council, an eight-member group of countries that ring the North. All members are attending, even though the council includes some of Russia's harshest critics, such as Canada and the United States.

"The prime minister has instructed Canadian officials to review all bilateral interactions with Russia," said Amanda Gordon, spokeswoman for Environment Minister Leona Aglukkaq, the current head of the council.

"For the moment, however, Arctic Council work does continue as planned."

The Yellowknife meeting began Tuesday and continues until Thursday. The delegations are being led by bureaucrats, not politicians, and are all closed to the media.

It's the second time senior Arctic officials have met since Canada assumed its two-year chairmanship of the council.

In Europe this week, Harper questioned the mentality of the Russian government, which has said Canada has no right to speak out against Russia's moves against Ukraine. Some government departments have already reduced their contact with Russia.

Speaking Tuesday in Washington, D.C., Transport Minister Lisa Raitt said her department is one of them.

"In my own portfolio we have looked at where there are points of contact, and we have stopped those points of contact," she said. "We are taking this very seriously, and it goes through the entire government."

Most of the Arctic Council's work involves the collection and sharing of scientific, environmental and social information between member countries and six aboriginal groups that have permanent observer status. The council has negotiated binding agreements that include deals on Arctic search and rescue and the prevention of oil spills.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Drunk driving

### Counsellor convicted of murder faces 45 years to life

A substance-abuse counsellor who drove over three kilometres through a Los Angeles suburb with a dying man on her windshield faces a maximum prison term of 45 years to life.

A jury last month found Sherry Lynn Wilkins, 52, guilty of second-degree murder, drunken driving and hit-and-run for the incident that killed 31-year-old Phillip Moreno in Torrance in November 2012.

Wilkins also has two previous felony convictions that are considered serious and make her eligible for California's three strikes law.

Prosecutors at the time of the trial said Wilkins' blood-alcohol level was nearly twice the legal limit, and that what she did to Moreno "struck at human dignity."

"We do not tolerate someone who does not pull over when they see someone on their windshield," Deputy District Attorney John Harlan said after the verdict. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# More bodies found after mudslide. Officials holding out hope for survivors

With search and cadaver dogs leading the way, rescuers using small bulldozers and their bare hands pushed through sludge strewn with splintered homes and twisted cars to find 10 more bodies in the debris of a Washington state mudslide, authorities said.

Despite the grim discoveries as the search entered its fifth day Wednesday — and the likelihood that more bodies will be found — officials were still hoping to find survivors.

"We haven't lost hope that there's a possibility that we can find somebody alive in some pocket area," said Snohomish County District 21 Fire Chief Travis Hots.

Two bodies were recovered Tuesday, while eight more were located in the debris field from Saturday's slide 55 miles northeast of Seattle, Hots said. That brings the likely death toll to 24, though authorities are keeping the official toll at 16 until the eight other bodies are recovered.

With scores still missing, authorities are working off a list of 176 people unaccounted for, though some names were believed to be duplicates.

Warning not heeded

**"For someone to say that this plan did not warn that this was a risk is a falsity."**

Rob Flaner, author of a 2010 report about landslides and high-risk areas

Hundreds of rescuers and heavy equipment operators slogged through the muck and rain, following the search dogs over the unstable surface.

As the increasingly desperate search progressed, reports surfaced that warned of the potential for dangerous landslides in the community.

A 2010 report commissioned by Snohomish County to comply with a federal law warned that neighbourhoods along the Stillaguamish River were among the highest-risk areas, The Seattle Times reported. The hillside that collapsed Saturday outside of the community of Oso was one highlighted as particularly dangerous, said the report by California-based engineering and architecture firm Tetra Tech. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Commuter train operator 'dozed off' before crash

The operator of a Chicago commuter train that crashed at O'Hare International Airport admitted she "dozed off" before the accident, waking only when the train jumped off the tracks and climbed an escalator, a federal official said Wednesday.

National Transportation Safety Board investigator Ted Turpin said the woman had been working as an operator for about two months and acknowledged she'd previously fallen asleep on the job in February, when her train partially missed a station.

"She did admit that she dozed off prior to entering the station," he said during a briefing Wednesday. "She did not awake until the train hit."

He said the woman, who was co-operating with the investigation, often worked an erratic schedule, filling in for other Chicago Transit Authority employees.

"Her hours would vary every day," he said.

Turpin said the NTSB is investigating the woman's training, scheduling and disciplinary history.

"The CTA became aware of that (February incident) almost immediately and a supervisor admonished her and had a discussion with her," he said.

A derailed Chicago Transit Authority train car rests on an escalator after a crash early Monday. ANDREW A. NELLES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

More than 30 people were hurt during the crash, which occurred around 3 a.m. Monday, but none of the injuries were serious.

Turpin said the crash caused about $6 million worth of damage.

Meanwhile Wednesday, crews were cutting apart the lead car of the eight-car train that was damaged during the crash, sending sparks into the air at typically busy station that remains closed.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Market Minute**

**DOLLAR** 90.22¢ (+0.61¢)

**TSX** 14,184.10 (-115.39)

**OIL** $100.26 US (+$1.07)

**GOLD** $1,303.40 US (-$8.00)

**Natural gas:** $4.39 US (-$0.01)
**Dow Jones:** 16,268.99 (-98.89)

**Airbag issue**

## Nissan recalls 60,000 vehicles in Canada

Nissan is recalling about 60,000 cars, SUVs and minivans in Canada because the front passenger airbags may not inflate in a crash.

The announcement is part of a broader recall of just over one million Nissan cars, SUVs and minivans across North America. It's the company's second recall to fix the same problem.

The recall affects almost 990,000 vehicles in the U.S. and small numbers elsewhere. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Report**

## Drug costs should stay stable under trade deal with EU

The Conference Board of Canada says drug costs are unlikely to rise significantly under a trade agreement between Canada and the EU. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Interac Association**

## Interac fraud drops 62%

The Interac Association says Interac debit card fraud losses caused by so-called skimming, or the stealing of information, are at a record low in Canada, helped by improved technology. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# BlackBerry beckons biz in BYOD era

**Bring your own device.** As more staffers use personal phones to conduct business, the Waterloo tech firm aims to provide peace of mind

BlackBerry Ltd. has received certification for U.S. government employees to use its Secure Work Space enterprise software on iPhones and devices that use the Android operating system.

The technology is part of products that became available through the rollout of its BlackBerry 10 operating system.

The Waterloo, Ont.-based company says the software helps government and business employees use mobile devices of their choice with lower security risks.

The certification will give security-conscious organizations, like U.S. and Canadian government agencies, the ability to use software which separates sensitive corporate data from personal content on a single mobile device.

More technology companies have been chasing the lucrative business market as BlackBerry's popularity waned. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Lawsuit launched**

**In other developments yesterday, chief executive John Chen says he's fighting against future product leaks by filing a lawsuit that he hopes will set an example.**

- Chen alleges that an unnamed person stole confidential details about a future BlackBerry product and leaked them to the public.

## Saga of the sweet, then sour stock debut

Characters of the King Digital Entertainment game Candy Crush Saga walk the trading floor of the New York Stock Exchange, before the company's IPO Wednesday. The festive mood didn't last. King's stock was priced at $22.50 US on Tuesday, valuing the company at $7.1 billion, but it opened on Wednesday at $20.50, down almost nine per cent. Its shares lost still more ground by the day's close, falling more than 15 per cent. But the company is far from impoverished. King Digital Entertainment PLC earned $1.88 billion in revenue last year. That's more than 10 times its 2012 revenue of $164.4 million. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Have password fatigue? Your voice may solve that

With passwords and PINs increasingly being targeted by hackers, speaking could become a new method to access secure accounts.

Voice biometrics — technology that knows who you are based on your voice — is already being used by banks and telecom companies globally for better security, says software company Nuance. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Return. It took man 16 years to get out of loan agreement

It started with an unwanted laptop, and it ended in Britain's Supreme Court.

A Scottish man on Wednesday won a 16-year court battle sparked by a wrangle over a loan he'd taken out to buy a computer.

An oil worker bought a laptop from a store in Scotland in 1998, using a credit agreement with a lender. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# I SURRENDER, MOTHER NATURE

HE SAYS

**John Mazerolle**
metronews.ca

OK, winter, I give up.

Forget discontent. This is the winter of our disbelief.

Mother Nature went from her usual fickle and frigid self to full-on cruel and cold-hearted. Bing Crosby's White Christmas gave way long ago to Game of Thrones' Winter Without End. Jack Frost bit my nose off and spat it in my face.

We were once in a snow globe, but now we're trapped Under the Dome, scratching at the glass and screaming for anyone to let us out.

As I write this, the Maritimes is being hit with the sort of storm that usually gives rise to over-the-top, two-word blends like polar vortex, frostquake or snowpocalypse. By the time you read this, the blizzard may well be known as a Sleet Scream, The Parthenon Freeze or Icetrocity 2014.

Meanwhile, in Toronto, it's been cold for so long that my friends and I are deeply excited that the forecast for the week includes such mercies as 10 degrees and rainy, which will give us at least one day to dream that we're Vancouverites adrift in a warmish sea of cappuccinos and cannabis.

(This column is least relevant for Vancouver residents, but just replace the word "snow" with "rain," the word "cold" with "drab" and the words "We're all in this together" with "Get bent.")

The predicted improvement from insufferable weather to unpleasant weather had given me hope that things were improving, but then I saw a new headline on Wednesday: "WINTER-LIKE WEATHER TO CONTINUE UNTIL AT LEAST MID-APRIL."

It's funny how your eyes play tricks on you, because when I first glanced at the headline I read it as "LEAP FROM THE BUILDING IMMEDIATELY." I thought about it, but figured the snow would probably break my fall anyway.

Which leads me back to my original thought: I give up. I have no more rage, no more despair to give. The tears only freeze on my face. The seven-day forecast has pushed me through the seven stages of grief and it's time to accept my frosty fate.

I accept that it's going to be winter forever. And I for one welcome our new, flakey overlords.

Why, winter year-round will be grand.

Patio weather will be any time we want, there'll be no annoying change of car tires, no suffering through another bus-stop simpleton asking, "Hot enough for ya?"

Hockey in June will make perfect sense, the cars-versus-bikes feud will end, and a balaclava will provide all the SPF protection you need.

No smog, no humidity, no insects. No summer love means no summer heartbreaks.

Endless winter will mean being comfortably numb, with smiles frozen on our faces.

I give up, winter. You win. I am yours, and you're all right.

A naysayer might claim I have Stockholm syndrome, but I checked. It's 14 and sunny there.

Uncle, Mother Nature. Uncle.

## ZOOM

# 10,000-calorie, beastly burger

## Substantial sandwich inspired by a cartoon

The 10,000-calorie whopper, dubbed the Ulti-Meatum, was cooked up by restaurant owners Corinne and John Clarkson after seeing the meat feast on Cartoon Network's The Regular Show.

The monster meal includes five pounds (2.2 kilograms) of meat and a cheeseburger within a burger just like in the children's animation. The owners of the Mister Eaters fish and chips restaurant in Preston, England, are offering up a man-versus-food challenge where daring punters can eat for free if they can finish the burger in one sitting. METRO

TWITTER:@TORGANDELLIOTT

**Q & A with John Clarkson, one of the creators**

### Special plate needed to hold it

**Was this as much a personal challenge as anything else?**
Yeah, I enjoy it and it's a bit of fun. I'm a butcher by trade and I'm familiar with meat and how it sticks together, so I thought I'll have a go. We've done the world's biggest deep-fried Ferrero Rocher at 11 pounds (five kilograms) in weight and that went global, so I thought I could do the same with this. It gets people talking; the shop's been overwhelmed.

**Did you have any problems building the burger?**
We had three or four flops. I had to design a plate with pins that are the same height as the burger, so that it doesn't topple over. The thing with my burger is that it's not messy when you cut it open — you get a really nice cross-section as you can see in the picture.

**Clickbait**

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

**The Oculus Rift VR helmet's splashy debut on the tech conference circuit helped make it one of the most successful Kickstarters of all time, eventually leading to Facebook's $2B purchase of Oculus on Tuesday. So it looks like VR is about ready to become a thing, and these movies available on Netflix will provide a nice glimpse of the nightmarish future it will usher in.**

The Oculus Rift virtual reality headset THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### eXistenz:
Jennifer Jason Leigh and Jude Law star as a video game designer and her protégé who flit between virtual worlds while avoiding assassins determined to hunt them down in this sci-fi brain bender from David Cronenberg. It's truly weird and wonderful.

### Strange Days:
A gem lying among the junk of mid-'90s cyber-paranoia flicks, the Kathryn Bigelow-directed Strange Days is the story of a former cop who stumbles across a high-profile murder among his collection of virtual reality clips, wrapping him up in a manhunt across an L.A. that has disintegrated into a war zone as the calendar heads toward the year 2000.

### Evolver:
Here is where we veer decidedly into B-movie territory when an elite gamer gets a chance to play a live version of his favourite video game. Naturally, this leads to big, violent problems when he finds himself battling a ruthlessly efficient killer robot.

**Twitter**

**@metropicks asked: A US$297 course called conscious uncoupling promises a happy breakup. Would you pay?**

**@Canucklehead_ca:** Why pay to have the cow sent back to pasture when you can simply give up milk for free?

**@prussell_pc:** I have paid .. far more. This program takes two to un-tango, and so wouldn't have worked for me.

**@AnyaZub:** That's like four bottles of whiskey,cover charge and two rounds at the bar for me and two of my best friends.

**Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.**

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# Art imitates life in university's newest theatre production

**Our Country's Good.** Play about threats to the arts resonates with University of Saskatchewan drama department today

BACKSTAGE PASS
Simon Hiatt
saskatoon@metronews.ca

Torien Cafferata and Jalisa Gonie star in Our Country's Good, playing at Greystone Theatre at the U of S through Saturday night. SIMON HIATT/FOR METRO

The setting is the other side of the planet and the time frame is 225 years ago, but the story being told at Greystone Theatre this weekend could not have a more appropriate home than the University of Saskatchewan in 2014.

"It's no coincidence the play is being put on at this time with everything happening at the U of S," said Torien Cafferata, who plays Second Lieutenant Ralph Clark. "The play advocates for the theatre and the arts in general. It's the (drama) department's defense against cuts to the arts."

Our Country's Good was written by Timberlake Wertenbaker in England in 1988 as a response to a difficult climate for the arts under the leadership of Margaret Thatcher. The story focuses on a group of transported English prisoners in Australia who put on a play of their own.

"It's an important play because it talks about the transformative power of the arts and humanities," said play director Pamela Haig Bartley. "The budget issues (at the University of Saskatchewan) are problematic; we're concerned with how long we're going to be able to hobble along with the limited funds the university's been giving us."

Our Country's Good is a blend of drama and comedy as both the prisoners and those who are guarding them are forced to adapt to life in a mysterious new land.

"They're in this new country and climate and everything in this environment is trying to kill them, essentially. The convicts have already had a very poor life, and so to put on a play in that environment offers a lot of comedic relief for them and at the same time you see how it humanizes them," Cafferata said.

The production is being staged by third- and fourth-year drama students at U of S, who have been given the challenge of perfecting a number of different accents ranging from Cockney to Scottish, with help from dialect coach Dorothy Ward.

"It's tricky because there are so many dialects in the play, and the actors have to be able to hang onto their own dialect and not be influenced by some of the other dialects around them," Bartley said.

Cafferata says the lockdown the students have gone through in preparation for the show, which runs through Saturday, gave them one more way to identify with the characters they are portraying.

"For every Greystone show we get to the point where we spend so much time here. So sometimes it does feel like we're prisoners here, but we're prisoners by choice, not by circumstance."

"The women have been double cast, so on alternate nights they'll play men. It's kind of interesting to see a woman dressed as a man saying some misogynist lines, which is quite clever. And that's what the original company did too," said director Pamela Haig Bartley.

**Gender bender**

## *Women play double role*

The large number of male roles in Our Country's Good has led to some interesting casting decisions both historically and in the version being presented at the University of Saskatchewan.

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# The life and times of a Bomb Girl

For two seasons, actress Charlotte Hegele immersed herself in the life of Second World War munitions factory worker Kate Andrews on the series Bomb Girl.

While her character grew on the series — breaking away from her authoritarian father and dealing with rumours of her "unnatural" love for fellow munitions worker Betty — so too did Hegele's knowledge of the period.

With the TV movie Bomb Girls: Facing the Enemy airing Thursday at 8 p.m. ET/PT on Global, we asked Hegele to tell us what she learned about the era in her role as Kate. METRO

Charlotte Hegele plays Kate Andrews in Bomb Girls. CONTRIBUTED

## Women's roles in war were dangerous, too

Before working on Bomb Girls I never knew the crucial role Canadian women played during the Second World War.

In school I only ever learned about how men bravely fought on the front lines. But it was the women back home who made the ammunition those Canadian soldiers used to win the war.

It was a dangerous job that paved the way for later generations of women to work in an industrial setting. It was a hazardous workplace and those women stepped up to the task.

## 'Their stories gave me goosebumps.'

I was given the opportunity to meet the women from that era and hear first-hand their accounts of the Second World War.

From building bombs, to cracking German codes, to serving overseas, these women did it all. Their stories gave me goosebumps.

I'll never forget how incredible those women were, and still are.

## Movies, music and fashion in wartime

Working on Bomb Girls, I was immersed in 1940s culture.

I learned hit songs sung by Vera Lynn, Ella Fitzgerald and Billie Holiday. I watched movies like Alfred Hitchcock's Suspicion (1941) and Saboteur.

Fashion was transformed by wartime rationing. Hemlines got shorter. Stocking seams were drawn up women's legs to fake the real thing. Movie stars like Veronica Lake styled their hair into up-dos to encourage safe practices on factory production lines. The war changed everything.

## It's all about the girls

In the film and television industry there is an unwritten rule that promotes the idea that audiences would prefer to see stories centred around men rather than women.

Bomb Girls proves this wrong. On Bomb Girls I got to work with some of the most talented and passionate women in the business like Adrienne Mitchell, Janis Lundman, Anne Wheeler, Rachel Talalay, and of course Meg Tilly.

These women shaped me into being both a better performer and a stronger person. I can't thank them enough.

# Crowe takes on role of biblical proportions

**Noah.** Actor's latest flick renews the tradition of mass audience Bible epics — with a distinctly darker feel

At the beginning of their work together on Noah, director Darren Aronofsky made Russell Crowe a promise: "I'll never shoot you on a houseboat in a robe and sandals with two giraffes popping up behind you."

Decades after Cecil B. DeMille's The Ten Commandments and Ben-Hur, Aronofsky has renewed the tradition of the studio-made, mass audience Bible epic, albeit as a distinctly darker parable about sin, justice and mercy. While much of his Noah is true to Scripture, it's nothing like the picture-book version many encounter as children.

"The first time I read it, I got scared," the director says. "I thought, 'What if I'm not good enough to get on the boat?'"

It's an altogether unlikely project: a $130-million Bible-based studio film made by a widely respected filmmaker (Black Swan, Requiem for a Dream) few would have pegged as a modern-day DeMille. In the lead-up to its March 28th release, Noah has been flooded by controversy, with some religious conservatives claiming it isn't literal enough to the Old Testament and that Noah has been inaccurately made, as Aronofsky has called him, "the first environmentalist."

Director Darren Aronofsky, left, and actor Russell Crowe on the set of Noah. NIKO TAVERNISE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Noah is a culmination of the shift brought on by Mel Gibson's independently produced The Passion of the Christ, which awakened Hollywood with its unforeseen $612 million box office haul in 2004. In the time since, Hollywood has carefully developed closer ties to faith-based communities, (Sony and 20th Century Fox have set up faith-based studios targeting evangelicals).

Yet the debate about Noah proves that it can be tricky to satisfy both believers and nonbelievers, and that finding the right intersection of art, commerce and religion is a task loaded with as much risk as potential reward.

A lot is at stake, and not just for Noah and distributor Paramount Pictures. In December, Fox will release Ridley Scott's Exodus, starring Christian Bale as Moses.

On the heels of the recently released Son of God, the religious drama God's Not Dead opened last Friday and Sony is releasing the less straightforwardly biblical Heaven Is for Real ahead of Easter next month. The studio is also developing a vampire twist on Cain and Able with Will Smith. In Lionsgate's pipeline is a Mary Magdalene film, hyped as a prequel to The Passion of the Christ and co-produced by megachurch pastor Joel Osteen.

When Jonathan Boch started his company Grace Hill Media in 2000 to consult Hollywood studios on reaching the faith community, the two "really didn't know each other."

Though Hollywood largely swore off the Bible epic when films like 1965's The Greatest Story Ever Told flopped, the revival dovetails recent trends. Figures like Noah are globally recognizable, and thus easier to market. They come with no licensing fee, and, often, plenty opportunity for flashy special effects. Noah, which is being released in converted 3D overseas, is perhaps the oldest apocalypse story.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Mass appeal**

**"It's wrong when you talk about the Noah story to talk about it in that type of believer-nonbeliever way because I think it's one of humanity's oldest stories. ... Everyone on the planet knows the Noah story."**

Director Darren Aronofsky

Selena Gomez ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

# Selena, stop hitting repeat-peat-peat on that relationship: Parents

Selena Gomez's parents are reportedly gearing up for another intervention for the former Disney star, hoping a return trip to rehab and distance from on-again, off-again boyfriend Justin Bieber will get her back on the straight and narrow, according to Life & Style Weekly. Their last attempts to convince Gomez to seek help for anxiety and alleged substance abuse issues went well, with Gomez voluntarily checking into the Meadows treatment facility in Arizona — but she checked herself out two weeks later to rush to Bieber's side in the wake of his legal troubles. And she's been spotted with the troubled Canadian pop star regularly since then, most recently this past weekend in L.A. when she stopped by the Sunset Towers Hotel for a quick visit with Bieber. Sources tell the magazine that Gomez's parents want her to ditch Bieber for good and head back to Meadows to complete her six-week program.

Lindsay Lohan

# Lindsay's got friends in Lo places, so what will that mean for her sobriety?

Folks close to Lindsay Lohan are reportedly worried about the starlet's fragile sobriety now that filming has concluded for her Oprah Winfrey-produced reality series, especially with the bad influences she's hanging around, according to Radar Online.
Particularly troubling connections include British socialite Lady Victoria Hervey and Spanish artist Domingo Zapata. "This is terrible news and so bad for Lindsay's sobriety," a source says. "It's a really bad sign. Anyone in recovery knows when you hang around with the same old people that you used with before it will sidetrack your entire life."

# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

## That's so tweet: Martin and Paltrow make peace with a painting

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

What should a sensitive GOOP-ified husband do to comfort his soon-to-be-ex-beloved in their time of conscious uncoupling? Put a bird on it, of course.

Chris Martin and Gwyneth Paltrow are clearly making an effort to ensure that even their divorce is expensive and classy. Apparently Coldplay front man Martin even bought Paltrow a parting gift — an etching of a bird by Polish artist Mila Fürstová, created as cover art for a Coldplay album, a source told the Daily Mail.

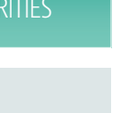
"The fighting is over now, there's no bitterness. They're actually going to have some fun," the source said.

There's the picture above. It's pretty cool and the sort of thing that Chris Martin and Gwyneth Paltrow would have in their living room.

It seems unfair that even their divorce is cooler than me. Or maybe not: Mila Fürstová's staff denies that Chris Martin bought one of her works "as a gift or for any other reason."

Twitter

**@Pink**
I'm hearing I've been hacked... I hope "I" didn't say something out of line. Can I always say I've been hacked now? When I do that?



**@samantharonson**
Just found a piece of cheese in my sleeve- in case you were wondering how this not smoking thing is going.



**@solangeknowles**
This damn taxi driver... This tweet sponsored by "Shade"

Judd Apatow and Lena Dunham

# Apatow admits Girls could have been a lot more graphic

While Lena Dunham's hit HBO series Girls has often been criticized for how far it goes as far as sexual content, producer Judd Apatow reveals that apparently they've wanted to go even farther. "There have been things on Girls where HBO has said to us, 'If we put this on TV, we literally could lose our license to broadcast," Apatow told a group of college students at an event in Los Angeles, according to the New York Post. "Let's just say it's something you see in adult film — elements of sexual intercourse. The high points of sexual intercourse." Maybe they can save that for the DVD.

LIFE 3

Fashion, at its purest, is about telling stories. And the best storytellers are ones with tales to tell themselves. Here, we look at five individuals making waves in the Canadian fashion industry while weaving their own experiences into the mix.

SIGRID FORBERG
life@metronews.ca

# 5 who stitched their story into a style career

## Nana Osei

**Designer, Bôhten Eyeglasses Inc.**

It was on a trip to Ghana in 2009 that Nana Osei saw an opportunity to combine his passions for social responsibility and fashion. While still in university in Ottawa, he created Bôhten Eyeglasses Inc. The lightweight eyewear, made of reclaimed wood from West Africa and handcrafted in zero-waste facilities in Canada, have been drawing national attention. He's even appeared on the Dragon's Den. In the future, Osei hopes to bring the manufacturing to Africa as well. "People say there's nothing you can do about some things, but I say it always just starts small," says Osei.

## Meredith Wright

**Filmmaker, Agency**

After modelling for several years around the world, and being turned off by the way models were treated everywhere she went, Wright wanted to expose some of the darker sides of the industry. The end result was Agency, a documentary about young girls working for a modelling agency in Japan. Shot through Wright's own perspective, living in an apartment with fellow models in Osaka, Japan, the film aims to get people asking questions about the industry they normally wouldn't. "If I told someone that underage girls were working with no representation, they would be upset," says Wright. "So why is it OK when it's for fashion?"

## Lolitta Dandoy

**Blogger, Fashion is Everywhere**

With a mix of French and English posts on Fashion is Everywhere, Dandoy is the quintessential Montrealer. As a fashion journalist, she'd always wanted to start her own publication. Faced with a cancer diagnosis several years ago, while convalescing at home, she decided to go for it. Surrounded by so much creativity in Montreal, she tries to capture an awareness in her blog that the fashion community *is* in fact a community and has a greater meaning beyond superficial consumerism. "When somebody doesn't feel right in their skin, a lot of that can have to do with their appearance," says Dandoy. "It can change things you don't expect."

## Julia Che

**President, Lotus Leaf Communications**

After studying fashion communications at Ryerson University, Che was working in public relations in Toronto when she noticed a friend, who is a talented jewelry designer, needed help promoting her product. Thus, Lotus Leaf Communications was born. They now represent big-name clients like 7 For All Mankind, Dr. Martens and Manitobah Mukluks. And while they've grown exponentially from that first client, at the end of the day, Che has used the company's success to give back to the community, "Agents of Change is a branch of Lotus Leaf," says Che. "Through it, we can use our expertise to increase awareness about social issues."

## Jigme Nehring

**Founder, Mine & Yours**

After living in Los Angeles, where the buy-sell-trade concept is common, Jigme Nehring decided to bring the model to Vancouver. Her resale shop, Mine & Yours is a place where women can purchase, sell or trade their gently used clothing. Nehring emphasizes the business's aspect of giving women the chance to recycle and find good homes for items that might otherwise collect dust in the back of their closets. The trouble with the fashion industry, Nehring explains, is the amount of waste it produces, which the shop aims to help negate as much as possible. "Mine & Yours helps reduce waste by extending the life of great pieces that are still in style and encouraging people to buy used clothing over new," says Nehring.

# Canadian street style

**Spotted in: Toronto**

**Name: Natasha Taylor**

**Age: 27**

**Occupation: Project manager and professional dancer**

**What she's wearing:**
H&M tuque, J. Crew Gingham button up, my boyfriend's sweater from Jack & Jones, faux leather zipper leggings from GUESS, Top Shop wedge booties, neon Cambridge style bag from Forever 21.

**Her inspiration:**
I'm a bit of a tomboy at heart but I also like to incorporate feminine flare. My style is heavily influenced by British street style as well as dancers from the dance community in Toronto.

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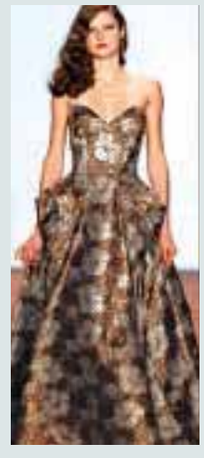
**Trends Report**

**Floral fashion dominated the runways from New York to Milan for this season, just in time for spring, despite the prolonged cold weather. Go online to Trends Report to see how to wear pretty petals, from haute couture gowns to casual wear.**

- **Online.** Follow Irene on Twitter at @MetroIreneK or Instagram: kuanirene; metronews.ca/voices/trends-report

Photo: Getty Images



# It's home, petite home

Small is more: A view inside the Morrisons' trailer home shows that you can have all the regular household essentials, even in a tight space. TINY HOUSE BUILD

Humble abode: The house's timber exterior is minimalist in style but feels right at home in its woodland surroundings. TINY HOUSE BUILD

Kitchen cool: It looks just like yours, maybe even better. TINY HOUSE BUILD

Work and rest: Office/eating area and kitchen. TINY HOUSE BUILD

**Tiny house movement.** American family goes small, really small, and finds rewards are huge

MICHELLE CASTILLO
Metro World News in London

With their large house in the perfect neighbourhood, the Morrisons thought they were living the American dream. Soon, the strain of living in a spacious abode began to weigh down on their energy levels and their conscience.

"It went from comfort to resentment," Gabriella Morrison explains. "We didn't have time to enjoy the house because we had to work so much more to pay for it."

Luckily, the Morrisons found a simple solution to their homestead woes: They joined the 'tiny house movement.' Its members share the same ideal that living in small spaces can lead to less complex lives and less waste.

After reading The Small House Book by Jay Shafer, the Morrisons got rid of 50 per cent of their items within six months. Soon after, Gabriella, her husband Andrew and their daughter Terra sold their house, bought a pop-up tent trailer and moved to Baja California, Mexico.

"There's something about living in that teeny tiny pop-up trailer; we were finally able to connect with each other. It's lasted all this time. The changes that we experienced I daresay, it was really permanent," says Gabriella.

Wanting to continue their success, Gabriella and Andrew moved to Ashland, Ore. and built a 32 square metre trailer to live in. The structure, which took four months to build, contains two full-sized beds, a working/eating area, a kitchen, a bathroom and a lounge area for visitors.

To make sure they are living green, Andrew puts a special focus on cooling and heating their place efficiently. The high ceilings and multiple windows help keep the place breezy. A gas-burning fireplace helps warm the residence and allows them to turn off the device if they aren't around. Having a small house enables them to use less energy to accomplish both tasks.

The most expensive piece of "furniture" in the Morrison trailer was a $1,400 composting toilet — a dry toilet that turns human waste into compost, or 'humanure'.

They also purchase smaller-sized items they know that they can finish instead of buying in bulk, so they don't have excessive products and create more waste. In addition, there's no extra storage space in their tiny abode.

"The warehouse shopping thing is an unbelievable myth and farce," Gabriella explained. "You go in and see these amazing deals. The amount of things that went to waste was shocking. It's just too much. You can't use 40 bars of soap in a lifetime."

Three and a half years after making this choice, they have purged 80 per cent of their belongings. They live by the rule that if they don't use something in the last 365 days, they toss it out.

The Morrisons do own one storage unit, but are planning to sell most of the items inside. They allow themselves one Tupperware each for heirlooms. For anything sentimental that's not really needed, they take a picture to keep it in their memories but throw the item away.

Above all, the Morrisons' initiative is about staying simple and becoming independent.

"One of our biggest passions in life is empowering the average person to build their own shelter. With the right information and a little encouragement even those with no previous building experience can handcraft their dream home," adds Andrew.

## A room of one's own — for lucky tween

Admittedly, the Morrisons' living space can get a bit too cramped, especially with their two children to look after. So they built a small lookout cabin 30 metres away for their 12-year-old daughter Terra where she can study and sleep. Andrew has also started a larger treehouse project for his 17-year-old son, who's returned from college prep boarding school in Colorado. It's something he always promised his son since he was a child. "Now, we can finally do it — although the scope of the treehouse has got a lot more complicated," he adds laughing. MWN

## *Getaway can help renew your mood*

The trick with weekend getaways is figuring out precisely what you want from your wee vacation.

Looking for giggles in the sun with a few girlfriends? Or perhaps you are more in the mood for the nightlife and culinary adventures of New York City? Has work kept you so swamped you feel the need to reconnect with parents and kids? Or are you missing the loving embrace of your partner? Maybe a romantic weekend getaway is in store.

Any which way, be clear about what it is you are seeking as you approach the long Easter weekend, says Jo Allan, marketing director for Intercontinental Hotels Group, a large multinational with more than 4,600 hotels worldwide.

"A good place to begin is by asking yourself what kind of feeling you want to accomplish with your getaway or what it is you need," Allan said.

Once you have decided on what mood you want to set, you will want to look at a budget. Will a Las Vegas fantasy suite or a rejuvenating spa package at a luxurious country inn suit you? If you are travelling with kids, parents or extended family members, finances may be a factor, so you may want to consider accommodations that offer free breakfasts, free dining for kids or rooms that have kitchen facilities that cut down on your overall food bill.

"Given the winter we've had many will be looking to bring on spring," Allan said. "Vacationers might want to look for something with a pool."

And don't forget your technology. Whether that's for mapping out a spontaneous trip to Quebec or finding hotels near the Parliament Buildings or checking the reviews of a roadside burger joint, your smartphone is a great portable resource for those on the go. **KELLY PUTTER**

# Time to put a spring in your step

**New season.** Activities that will make you forget the long winter we have endured

**KELLY PUTTER**
For Metro

Take the family out for a hike for some outdoor exercise. GOODLUZ/SHUTTERSTOCK

As we usher in spring don't let the cool weather and threat of flurries dampen your enthusiasm for outdoor fun in the sun.

The warm weather is coming. That's a promise.

Ease your atrophied muscles back to health with an outdoor exercise regime that blends fresh air and fitness. Try an outdoor yoga class or boot camp. Find your favourite public space and work out using just your body weight as resistance for squats, lunges or push-ups. Take a hike. Go for a run or just amble along.

Shopping outdoors is almost as good as retail therapy gets. Open-air markets, street vendors and yard sales all signal warmer weather. Outdoor farmers' markets, in which growers, foodies and artisans promote the freshness and quality of their wares, are back in full swing. If you are on a tight budget, try some old-fashioned window shopping instead.

Hone your green thumb. Use garden apps such as Garden Squared or Into Gardens to plan for the upcoming growing season. Start seeds indoors to get plants hale and hearty for summer's sun. In an effort to encourage bees that have been mysteriously disappearing lately, grow bee-friendly plants such as primrose, crocus and lavender. Take a Sunday drive to your nearest orchard to visit the blossoms. Consider growing heirloom varieties of vegetables for your summer salads. And don't forget to compost.

Let's chew on the fact that nearly everything is better when done outdoors and that means eating, too. Whether dining on your favourite terrace, pop-up patio or from a food truck or street vendor, food and fresh air are two ingredients that create the perfect summer pastime. Bring on picnics, backyard barbecues, fairs and drive-ins, all awesome al fresco eating venues when the nicer weather arrives.

**New outlook**

- Ease back slowly into exercise if you have taken a winter sabbatical.
- Clean and purify your diet, your cosmetics bag, your gym bag and your home.
- Revamp your wardrobe.
- Consider a new hairstyle or colour.
- Have your vehicle, motorcycle or bike tuned up.
- Book a cottage or plan a summer holiday.

# **Regrowth.** Dig into these seasonal ideas

**SHARON DEVELLIS**
YummyMummyClub.ca

Even though the weather may not feel like spring, here are a few ways to celebrate the new season.

### Start your seeds

With snow on the ground you probably aren't thinking of your garden just yet, but now is the perfect time to start seeds. Typically, you want to start your seeds six to eight weeks before the expected last frost date in your area. Also, you don't need expensive store bought pots to start your seeds.

### Begin spring cleaning

This is the perfect time to get a jump-start on your spring cleaning. Open windows to air out your house, tackle the baseboards, dust the top of light fixtures and do all the other stuff you have been putting off all winter.

### Put a bird feeder in your yard

The birds will soon be returning from their long trek down south. Welcome them with a bird feeder or bird house.

### Buy some flowers

Nothing says spring like fresh flowers. Treat yourself to a bouquet that will brighten your day without wilting your wallet. Or better yet, buy a plant in a pot that you can plant outdoors when the weather is nice.

### Eat spring produce

Start with green — asparagus, fiddleheads, and peas — then add colour with radishes and rhubarb. As the spring season progresses, more in-season produce will become available and your table will be filled with a rainbow of colours.

### Get outside

We've been cooped up all winter, so it's time to get out and enjoy the warm weather. And if it's not warm yet, still go out and get some fresh air. It will make you feel better.

Think about planting seeds now so they will be ready to transfer to your garden. MONKEY BUSINESS IMAGES/SHUTTERSTOCK

### De-clutter and get ready for a garage sale

It's time to get rid of the stuff you don't use. Tackle the toys, comb through the clothes, and bring out the books you don't need. When warm weather hits you will be ready to throw your first garage sale of the season.

### Take out your spring wardrobe

After months of greys, blacks, and dark blue hues, it's time to bring on the colour. Go through last year's spring clothes, get rid of what doesn't fit or what you didn't wear last year and then start shopping to fill in the gaps.

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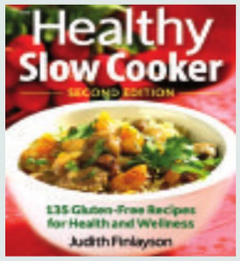
Cookbook of the Week

## Slow and steady wins health race




In the follow-up to the first edition of The Healthy Slow Cooker, Judith Finlayson takes conflicting information about the changing face of dietary guidelines and balances it with a common-sense approach.

All the recipes in the book are deliciously nutrient-dense and have a rounded approach to meet a wide range of needs.

From soups and entrées to desserts, Finlayson uses the slow cooker to show readers how simple healthy eating can be.

METRO

# Slow cooker meal's protein punch

## Beef and Chickpea Curry with Spinach.

The Indian-inspired flavours will have your taste buds doing a happy dance

"This combination of beef and chickpeas in an Indian-inspired sauce is particularly delicious. I like to serve this with brown basmati rice, not only because I like its pleasant nutty flavor but also for its nutritional value," writes Judith Finalyson in her book The Healthy Slow Cooker, Second Edition. "This is a generous serving (almost 2 cups/500 mL) so there will be more than enough to fill you up."

**Ingredients and Tools**

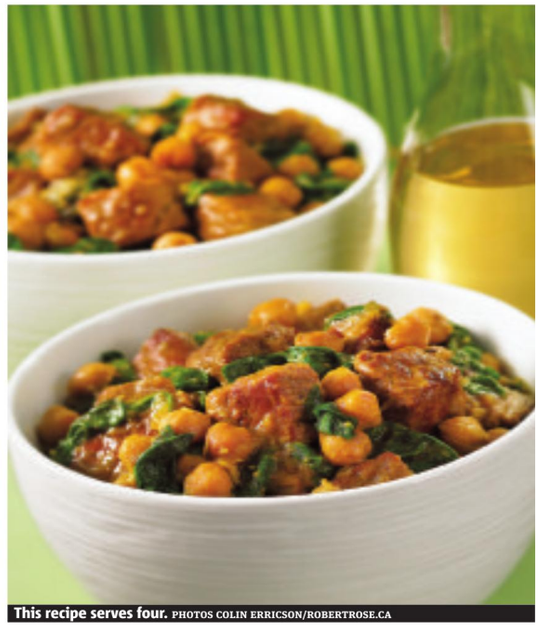
- Medium to large (3 1/2 to 5 quart) slow cooker
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) olive oil
- 1 lb (500 g) trimmed stewing beef, cut into 1/2-inch (1 cm) cubes
- 2 onions, finely chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp (15 ml ) minced gingerroot
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) cracked black peppercorns
- 1 piece (1 inch/2.5 cm) cinnamon stick
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 cup (250 ml) beef stock
- 2 cups (500 ml) cooked chickpeas, drained
- 1 tsp (5 ml) curry powder, dissolved in 2 tsp (10 ml) freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 1 lb (500 g) fresh spinach, stems removed
- 1 package (10 oz/300 g) spinach leaves, thawed if frozen
- Plain yogurt, optional

**1.** In a skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Add beef, in batches, and cook, stirring, adding additional oil if necessary, until browned, about 4 minutes per batch. Transfer to slow cooker stoneware.

**2.** Reduce heat to medium. Add onions to pan and cook, stirring, until softened, about 3 minutes. Add garlic, ginger, peppercorns, cinnamon stick and bay leaf and cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Add beef stock and bring to a boil.

**3.** Transfer to slow cooker stoneware. Add chickpeas and stir well. Cover and cook on Low for 8 hours or on High for 4 hours, until beef is tender. Add curry powder solution and stir well. Add spinach, in batches, stirring until each batch is submerged in the curry. Cover and cook on High for 20 minutes, until spinach is wilted. Discard cinnamon stick and bay leaf. Ladle into bowls and drizzle with yogurt, if using.

RECIPES COURTESY THE HEALTHY SLOW COOKER, SECOND EDITION BY JUDITH FINLAYSON, 2014 © ROBERTROSE.CA REPRINTED WITH PUBLISHER PERMISSION.



This recipe serves four. PHOTOS COLIN ERRICSON/ROBERTROSE.CA

# Appetizer. Spinach and Artichoke Dip

This recipe makes about 3 cups (750 ml).

**1.** In slow cooker stoneware, combine shredded mozzarella, Neufchâtel cheese, Parmesan, garlic, artichokes, spinach and black pepper. Cover and cook on High for 2 hours, until hot and bubbly. Stir well and serve with homemade tortilla chips.

**Ingredients and Tools**

- Small to medium (1 1/2 to 3 1/2 quart) slow cooker
- 1 cup (250 ml) shredded mozzarella cheese
- 6 oz (175 ml) Neufchâtel cheese, cubed
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) freshly grated Parmesan
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 can (14 oz/398 ml) artichokes, drained, rinsed and finely chopped
- 8 oz (250 g) trimmed fresh spinach leaves (about 8 cups/2 L)
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) black pepper

For your phone

## Blend (iPad; free)

MIND THE APP
Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel
life@metronews.ca

This introductory guide to creating your own spice blends includes sixteen international recipes and videos on how to dry, roast, and grind seeds for sauces, seasonings, desserts, and soup flavourings.

4 SPORTS

2015 Grey Cup

## Cohon ready to 'showcase the modern CFL'

Mark Cohon says he's looking forward to showcasing the modern CFL in one of the league's proudest homes.

Sporting a blue-and-gold tie, the CFL commissioner officially announced Wednesday that the Winnipeg Blue Bombers will host the 103rd Grey Cup game on Nov. 29, 2015.

Cohon said the event will highlight the growth of the league and show off the 33,500-seat Investors Group Field, which opened last year. Seating will be expanded to 41,000 for the championship game.

"It's really the new look and feel that we have that's coming across the league," Cohon said at a luncheon in Winnipeg.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NFL

## Bears sign Allen to replace Peppers

The Chicago Bears replaced one accomplished veteran pass rusher with another Wednesday when they agreed to terms with Jared Allen on a four-year contract.

A person with knowledge of the agreement told The Associated Press that Allen will get $15.5 million guaranteed on a deal that could be worth as much as $32 million. The person requested anonymity because the terms have not been announced.

Allen, 31, will take over for Julius Peppers, who signed with Green Bay as a free agent after being released by the Bears.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tennis

## Djoker pulls fast one on Murray

Novak Djokovic benefited from an erroneous call and claimed he didn't realize he had broken the rules. When Andy Murray walked to the net and challenged him about it, Djokovic responded with a shrug and a sheepish smile.

Murray lost the dispute, and the match. The pivotal ruling helped Djokovic win 7-5, 6-3 in the quarter-finals of the Sony Open.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Blue Jays win after Dickey's dismal start

The Blue Jays' Melky Cabrera greets Jose Bautista at the plate after both scored on Adam Lind's fifth-inning single in Wednesday's spring training game against the New York Yankees in Dunedin, Fla. Toronto opening day starter R.A. Dickey gave up six runs and seven hits over three innings but the Jays still won 10-6. KATHY WILLENS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# DeLaet looks to master Augusta

**PGA.** Canadian golfer not daunted by first bid for Green Jacket

Weyburn's Graham DeLaet is primed to make some noise next month at the Masters. CHRIS TROTMAN/GETTY IMAGES

Graham DeLaet won't be so much in awe of Augusta National Golf Club when he makes his Masters debut next month.

The native of Weyburn made a trip to the fabled golf course last week. Although bad weather prevented him from playing a full round, he did walk the par-72, 7,435-yard layout and make mental notes regarding the lay of the land.

"It was drizzly rain and cold the first day and it was pretty tough on my body to swing in that kind of cold with that many layers on," DeLaet said during a conference call Wednesday. "But it was still very worthwhile to go and see the course … and kind of get the 'wow' factor out of the way. It (the course) was pretty much perfect."

An ardent television viewer of past Masters tournaments — including Canadian Mike Weir's 2003 championship — DeLaet said actually walking the course was a learning experience.

And from what DeLaet saw, he has the game to potentially succeed at Augusta.

"I do feel the golf course suits my game pretty well," he said. "I mean, it's a big golf course.… You have to drive it well and hit your irons precisely."

On Tuesday, Weir, of Bright's Grove, Ont., told reporters he felt DeLaet, 32, could contend at Augusta.

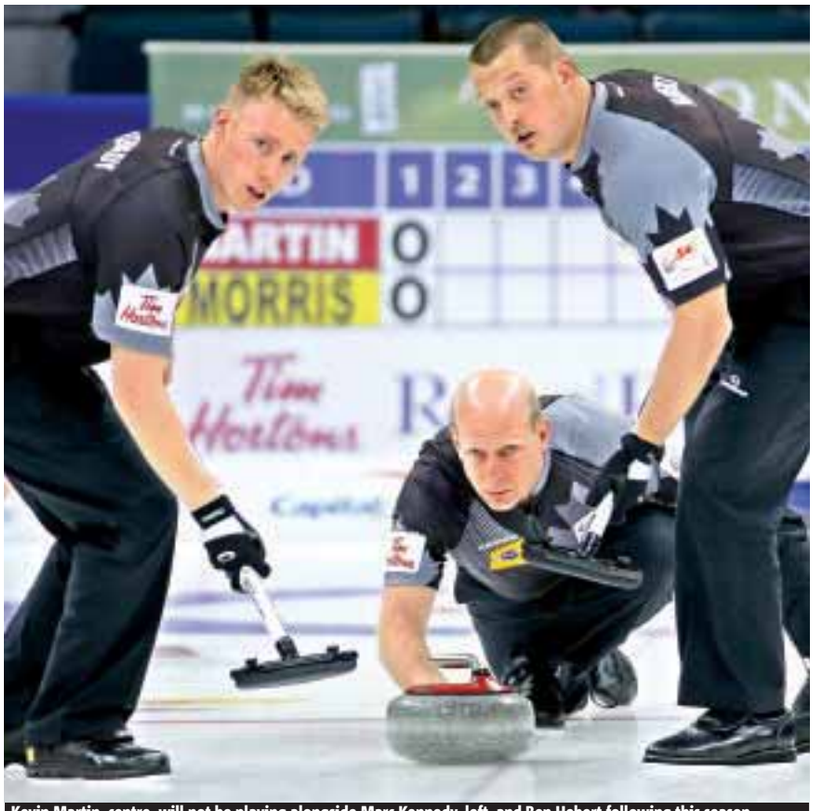
"I think Graham obviously has the type of game that can do very well there," Weir said. "He hits it long, he hits it very high."

DeLaet said he always has butterflies when he hits his first tee shot to officially open a tournament. But having played previously in the British Open as well as last year's President's Cup, DeLaet feels he knows what to expect heading into his first Masters. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Graham's great start**

**The five-foot-11, 165-pound DeLaet is enjoying a solid start to the PGA season.**

- **In the hunt.** He's recorded five top-10 finishes, including two second-place efforts, and made the cut in eight of nine tournaments.
- **Ranking.** DeLaet stands 15th in the FedExCup standings.
- **Money talks.** He has already won more than $1.6 million US this season and last season earned $2.8 million and enjoyed seven top-10 finishes.




Kevin Martin, centre, will not be playing alongside Marc Kennedy, left, and Ben Hebert following this season.
GETTY IMAGES FILE

# Departures leave Kevin Martin's future up in the air

**Curling.** Kennedy, Hebert announce move to another rink; skip unsure if he'll continue competing

Veteran skip Kevin Martin will have a much different lineup if he decides to return for another season on the men's curling circuit.

Team second Marc Kennedy and lead Ben Hebert plan to leave Martin's rink after this season to join reigning national champion Kevin Koe. It's the first major move of what's expected to be an off-season loaded with significant roster changes.

As for the 47-year-old Martin, who has national, world and Olympic titles on his glowing resumé, he plans to take some time after the season to consider his future plans.

"I can't confirm that I'm looking for a new roster," Martin told The Canadian Press on Wednesday from Napa Valley, Calif. "But I can confirm that Marc and Ben are going to curl with Kev, yeah. I haven't decided if I'm going to curl again at all."

In addition to Kennedy and Hebert, the new Koe foursome will also include Brent Laing of Team Glenn Howard, according to a recent Rogers Sportsnet website report.

Laing declined to comment and a message left with Howard was not immediately returned.

The timing of the news is less than ideal for Koe and his current lineup of third Pat Simmons, second Carter Rycroft and lead Nolan Thiessen, who will try to put the distraction aside as they prepare to play at the world championship in Beijing this Saturday.

Koe preferred to keep his focus on the upcoming competition and declined comment.

Rycroft, whose wife is pregnant, has already said he'll be taking a year off from the sport after this season. Simmons and Thiessen were not available for comment and their future plans remain unclear.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Quoted**

**"I sure wish none of this stuff (came) out. I'm not exactly sure how it did but it's too bad."**
Kevin Martin

OHL

## Stick-swinging ban for Knights goaltender

London Knights goaltender Anthony Stolarz has been suspended eight games for swinging his stick at the head of Windsor Spitfires forward Josh Ho-Sang, the Ontario Hockey League team announced Wednesday.

In the first period of London's incident-filled 10-2 victory in Game 3 of their first round series on Tuesday night, Ho-Sang jabbed his stick at the goaltender after a play at the net. As the Spitfires star skated away, Stolarz took a one-handed swing with his stick and hit Ho-Sung on the back of the head. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Knights goaltender Anthony Stolarz TERRY WILSON/OHL IMAGES

## Sochi 2014. High-flying freestylers touch down

It's been a whirlwind couple of months for Mikael Kingsbury that included winning an Olympic silver medal and capturing his third consecutive overall World Cup title.

Now the Canadian moguls skier can't wait to put his feet up.

"I'm a Habs fan. I love hockey," Kingsbury said. "The thing I'm most excited for is to have a full day off, have a chance to sit on my couch with a beer, because we don't drink much during the World Cup circuit."

But first, there are interviews and public appearances and the Canadian freestyle championships this weekend at Apex Resort in Penticton, B.C.

Kingsbury, and moguls sisters Justine, Chloe and Maxime Dufour-Lapointe — among Canada's biggest stories at the Sochi Olympics — finally touched down on Canadian soil on Tuesday, and did the media rounds in Toronto on Wednesday.

The foursome was at Ryerson University to be honoured by Toronto Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly.

Justine Dufour-Lapointe won moguls gold at the Sochi Olympics, while 22-year-old sister Chloe captured silver, and the image of the Montreal sisters holding hands before stepping onto the medal podium will be one of the most enduring images of the Games.

Maxime, 25, was 12th in Sochi.

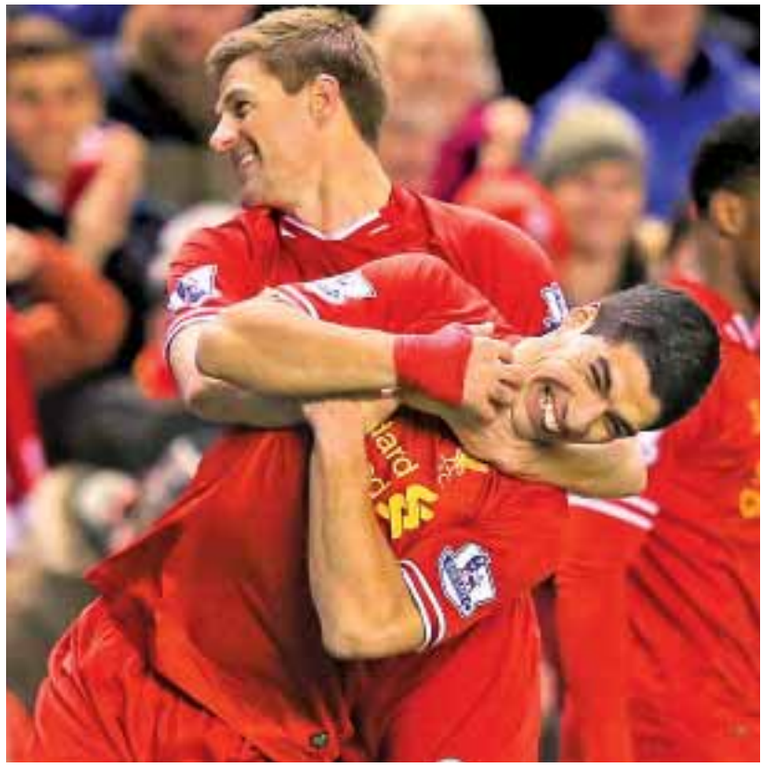
Last week, the sisters finished second through fourth in the season's overall World Cup moguls standings; Justine finished second, followed by Chloe and Maxime.

Kingsbury, a 21-year-old from Deux-Montagnes, Que., finished second to Canadian teammate Alexandre Bilodeau at the Sochi Olympics, then claimed his third straight Crystal Globe as the season World Cup winner.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**A warm welcome**

**"Today is our first day, 24 hours in Canada, so I think it's starting to hit us, realizing the impact we created."**
**Canadian Olympian Justine Dufour-Lapointe** reacts to her family's performance in Sochi.



## A footballer's full nelson

Steven Gerrard, left, of Liverpool, celebrates scoring the first goal of the game with teammate Luis Suarez during English Premier League soccer action against Sunderland at Anfield on Wednesday in Liverpool, England. Liverpool won the match 2-1 and moved to within one point of league-leading Chelsea in the title-race.

ALEX LIVESEY/GETTY IMAGES

## Horoscopes

### ♈ Aries
**March 21 - April 20**
Hopefully you will see solutions today where before you saw only problems. That applies to all areas of your life but especially to money matters and business issues that involve other people. Together you can make a profit and have fun.

### ♉ Taurus
**April 21 - May 21**
Do you get involved in a feud between friends? You know the answer already, so don't be silly and stand between them to try to keep the peace. If you do, they will gang up on you.

### ♊ Gemini
**May 22 - June 21**
If you can get someone else to do some of your chores for you today then go for it. You have more important matters to take care of and you may not have energy to spare.

### ♋ Cancer
**June 22 - July 23**
Others can sense your self-confidence and because of that they want to do things for you. Who are you to refuse any offers? It will give you more time to work on a creative project.

### ♌ Leo
**July 24 - Aug. 23**
If you need help over the next 24 hours come out and ask for it. If you wait for others to realize that you require assistance chances are you will never get it. They can't read your mind.

### ♍ Virgo
**Aug. 24 - Sept. 23**
You will find it easy to express yourself today and, more importantly, others will find it easy to understand you. If you are involved in a creative pursuit this is also a good time to impress important people.

### ♎ Libra
**Sept. 24 - Oct. 23**
You'll hear something to your benefit today but your suspicious nature could hold you back from taking advantage. Unless there's evidence someone is trying to trick you, take a chance.

### ♏ Scorpio
**Oct. 24 - Nov. 22**
You'll find it easy to work out what is going on in someone's mind today, which in turn will help you decide what you should do next. You see the kind of body language that other people miss.

### ♐ Sagittarius
**Nov. 23 - Dec. 21**
It's not like you to withdraw into your shell but you may do so over the next 24 hours. That's OK. You have important issues to decide on and you won't think straight if there is too much noise around you.

### ♑ Capricorn
**Dec. 22 - Jan. 20**
No matter how busy you may be work wise, make an effort to free up some time to spend with your loved ones. They are the people who really matter.

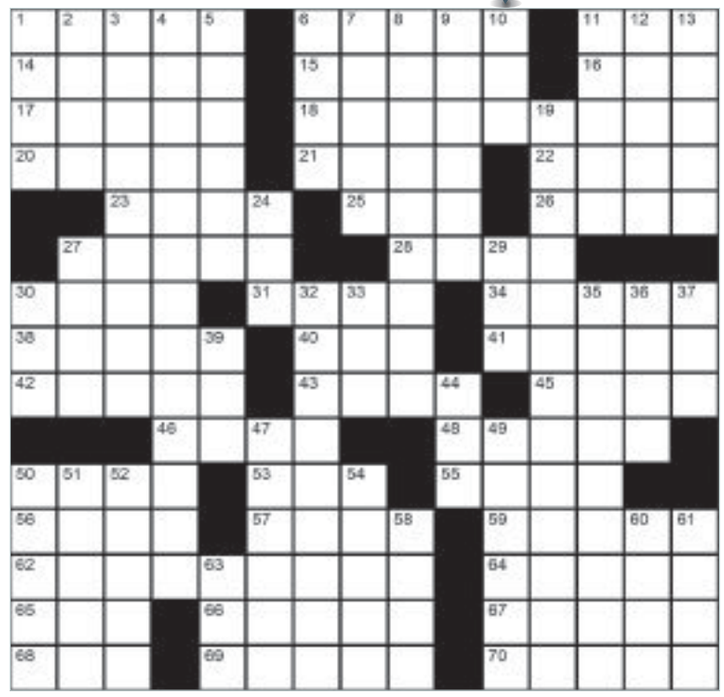
### ♒ Aquarius
**Jan. 21 - Feb. 19**
A remark you toss out into the conversation may not be meant in a negative way but that's how one person may take it. If they do seem offended let them know that you meant no harm.

### ♓ Pisces
**Feb. 20 - March 20**
Something will happen today that makes you wonder if there is more going on behind the scenes. Make it your business to find out why certain people are acting so strangely – and use what you discover for your own advantage. SALLY BROMPTON

## Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

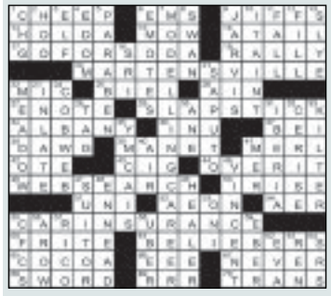
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



**Across**
1. Crockett's "Miami Vice" partner
6. Mythological blood
11. Do
14. __ __ ease (Jittery)
15. Canadian specialty channel
16. __ constrictor
17. Q. "John, George and Ringo ...who's missing?" A. "__, _ think!"
18. Lawyer's briefcase items, briefly: 2 wds.
20. Fishhook line
21. Oohs' pals
22. Funny person
23. __ buckle
25. Traveller's li'l way
26. Other
27. Archie's jalopy, Ol' __
28. Furniture store
30. Jeanne _'__
31. Actress Tara
34. Google service
38. "The Jetsons" character
40. Boot bit
41. Hog
42. Self-congratulatory exclamation!: 2 wds.
43. English river
45. Medieval chest
46. "No __!" (Casual response to "Thanks.")
48. Flashlight precursor
50. Dad
53. Nothing
55. Certain currency
56. Cook's need
57. Bunch
59. "Leggo!"
62. Newfoundland community on the Burin Peninsula
64. James __, White House architect
65. Photo
66. ABBA's "__ _ Chance on Me"
67. Country's Mr. Adkins
68. Tricky
69. Publicity
70. Flower sort

**Down**
1. Points
2. Mongolia city, __ Bator
3. Oxford, NS: The '__ Capital of Canada'
4. The 'Royal Winnipeg', for one, in dance: 2 wds.
5. Neil Young bandmate, Stephen __
6. Island: Spanish
7. Exonerate
8. The Bay of Fundy is world famous for them: 2 wds.
9. Ric of The Cars
10. Fam. member
11. Heated up, as in cooking
12. Ms. Chanel's
13. Preference
19. 'And Now the Legacy Begins' Hip-Hop greats from Toronto: 2 wds.
24. Norse god of strife
27. Community in The Muskokas in Ontario that has an annual cranberry festival
29. For instances, for short
30. Actress Susan
32. Where Mayor of Toronto Rob Ford was born
33. Promissory note
35. That which Canadian ace Billy Bishop had to engage in during WWI: 2 wds.
36. Length measure
37. Grassland
39. "__ Blues" by The Beatles
44. Printemps follower
47. GM car safety system
49. Alanis Morissette's: "You __ Know"
50. Showy showings
51. Be of service
52. A brother of Ron Weasley's in 'Harry Potter' books
54. 17th-century English composer, Henry __
58. Scientific 'strands'
60. Immobilizing spray
61. Power [abbr.]
63. "Plush" rock gr.

## Yesterday's Crossword



## Sudoku

**How to play**
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 4 | | 5 | | | | | |
| | | 9 | | 2 | | | | 3 |
| | | 7 | | 1 | 6 | 8 | 5 | |
| | | 6 | | | | | | 2 |
| | 9 | 5 | | 3 | | 1 | 8 | |
| 4 | | | | | | 9 | | |
| | 1 | 4 | 2 | 6 | | 3 | | |
| 2 | | | | 8 | | 6 | | |
| | | | | | 5 | | 7 | |

## Yesterday's Sudoku

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 9 |
| 5 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 8 |
| 7 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 3 |
| 3 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 2 |
| 8 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| 9 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 6 |
| 1 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 4 |
| 6 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 5 |
| 2 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 1 |

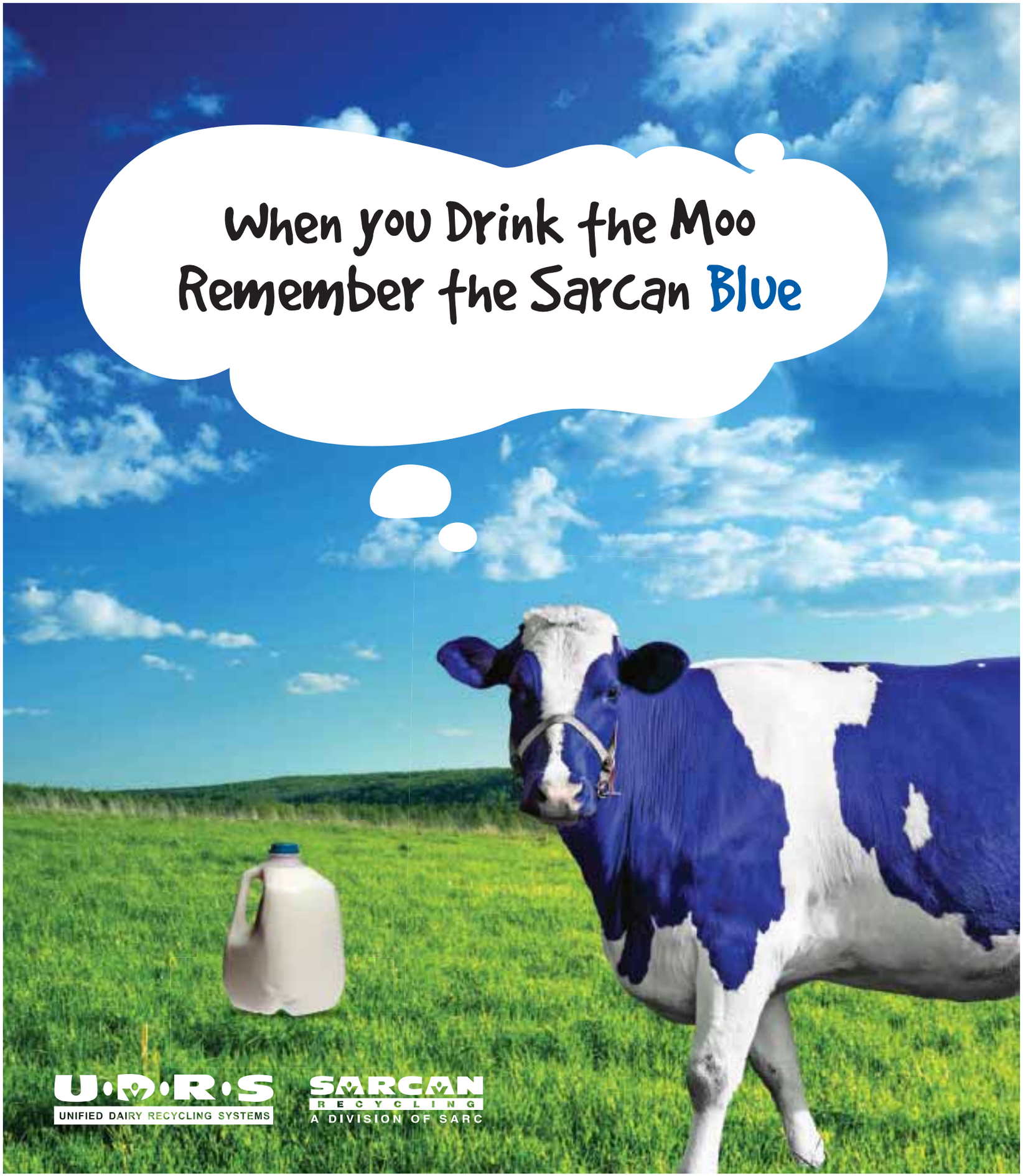
Today
-7°/-17°
Partly sunny

Friday
-5°/-10°
Partly cloudy

Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend.
TWN incorporates MSC data

Soap Stories is seeking
6 F/T Beauty Treatment Operators
to sell soap & bath products in
Market Mall, 2325 Preston Ave, Saskatoon.
$13.20/Hr Plus bonus & commission.
Beauty certification required.
Email : soapskbto@gmail.com

Soap Stories is seeking
6 F/T Retail Sales Reps
to sell soap & bath products in
Market Mall, 2325 Preston Ave, Saskatoon.
$11.15/Hr Plus bonus & commission.
No Experience Required.
Email : soapskss@mail.com


When you Drink the Moo
Remember the Sarcan Blue
U·M·R·S
UNIFIED DAIRY RECYCLING SYSTEMS
SARCAN
RECYCLING
A DIVISION OF SARC